

Message Text

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R 182305Z FEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

S E C R E T STATE 039199

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, RP, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: (A) MANILA 2279, (B) MANILA 2117

1. REF PARA 4, REF A, ALTHOUGH IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR BOTH PARTIES TO ARRANGE FOR SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS OF OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS AND MARCOS HAS JUMPED THE GUN, WE AGREE THAT IN CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS BEST TO LET FILIPINOS ANNOUNCE CHANGE OF DATE TO APRIL 19. IF QUERIED CONCERNING MARCOS ANNOUNCEMENT, WE WILL STATE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL OPEN IN WASHINGTON IN MID-APRIL.

2. REF PARA 3, REF B, WORKING GROUP DOES NOT POSSESS EITHER EXPERTISE OR SUFFICIENTLY DETAILED CURRENT KNOWLEDGE OF BASE LABOR CONDITIONS TO ATTEMPT DRAFT OF LABOR PROCEDURAL ANNEX, AS PROPOSED BY EMBASSY. FURTHERMORE, STRONG RESISTANCE HAS SURFACED TO INDIRECT HIRE PROPOSAL AND SUBCOMMITTEE IS WORKING ON ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE.

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THEREFORE, TO PERMIT FAIR AND DETAILED COMPARISON OF TWO

PROPOSALS, SUGGEST EMBASSY PROCEED WITH ORIGINAL PLAN
OF DEVELOPING PROCEDURAL ANNEX IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH
U.S. CIVILIAN PERSONNEL OFFICERS AT BASES. OBVIOUSLY,
SOONER IT IS RECEIVED HERE, THE MORE THOROUGHLY IT CAN BE
STUDIED. INGERSOLL

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